(i) Scanning Centre, University of Goa (ii) Scanning Centre, University of Hyderabad (iii) Digital Archiving for Preservation of Rare Manuscripts and Folios Available with Namgyal Institute of Tibetology, Gangtok (Sikkim) (iv) Data Compression Techniques IIT, Kanpur (v) Development of Interactive learning material on introduction to Animation (DOEACC, Kolkata).

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Promotional campaign on Speed Post Service

3068. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INPORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started a promotional campaign on the utilities of the speed post service;

(b) the comparative advantages of the Speed Post Service compared to private courier services;

(c) whether it is a fact that the charges for postal service are the same as the charges of private couriers;

(d) whether it is also a fact that a speed post letter posted in Delhi reaches Guntur in Andhra Pradesh on the fourth day; and

(e) the steps which would be taken to improve the actual delivery of speed post services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The Department has been issuing advertisements about its products and services from time to time to inform the public about its activities.

(b) and (c) The Department of Posts has the largest network of Post Offices and largest dedicated delivery staff. The postal tariff is lower than the tariff of organized private couriers.

(d) As per the norms, Speed Post Article booked in Delhi is delivered at Guntur within three days. Speed Post delivery is based on the shortest route and fastest available means of transmission i.e. air, rail or road. Sometimes due to disruption of transmission schedules, delivery of Speed Post Articles may be delayed.

(e) The following steps are taken to improve the delivery of Speed Post Service:

* Delivery norms are prescribed and monitored.
* Dedicated delivery staffs are engaged exclusively for Speed Post delivery.
* In order to quicken the delivery of Speed Post Article, delivery staffs in few cities have been provided with mopeds.
* Track & Trace facility is provided through Speednet to enable the customer to find out the status of Speed Post Article.
* Same day delivery of local Speed Post Articles at all-important towns.
* Increase in Speed Post delivery staff where justified.
* Increase in nodal delivery offices wherever justified.
* Bulk delivery and delivery of big parcels is undertaken centrally from Speed Post Centres through special conveyance in Metros.
* Regular monitoring at different levels to ensure efficient delivery service.

Market share of mobile phones in A.P.

3069. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of BSNL mobile phones in operation in Andhra Pradesh as on 31st March, 2007;

(b) whether it is a fact that BSNL is not actively trying to improve market share in Andhra Pradesh for mobile phones;

(c) the promotional steps which BSNL propose to maintain its market share;

(d) whether it is also a fact that BSNL is not properly implementing its charges on actual bills; and

(e) the steps proposed to ensure that customers get benefits of announced discounts and lower roaming charges?